way of such 'Excise Loans' will not exceed 25% of the overall cost of rehabilitation/modernisation/diversification.

(vii) A Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has been established in April, 1990 to function as an Apex Bank for tiny and small scale industries. The paid up capital of this bank is Rs. 250 crores.

SIDBI has been organising rehabilitation meets in different States to help primary lending institutions (PLIs) and promoters in drawing up mutually acceptable rehabilitation packages for potentially viable sick SSI units. During 1990-91, 23 meets were organised at 14 centres where cases of over 250 units were discussed. The response from the PLIs and borrowers to such meets has been encouraging.

A separate Refinance Scheme for Rehabilitation (RSR) is being operated by SIDBI for revival of potentially viable sick units.

[English]

Families Living Below Poverty Line

3020. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of families in rural areas who are living below the poverty line at present, State/Union Territory-wise ;

(b) the steps taken or proposed for the improvement of their "quality of life" ; and

(c) the time by which the number of families living below the poverty line will be brought down to zero, State/Union Territory-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Based on the provisional results of 43rd round of National Sample Survey on household consumer expenditure, the number of families in rural areas below the poverty line in 1987-88 is indicated in the attached statement for the States and Union Territories.

(b) A number of programmes are being implemented in order to improve the quality of life of the poor households. These include programmes for raising incomes and generating employment, such as Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY). At the same time, Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) is being implemented which covers components like elementary education, adult education, rural health, rural water supply, rural roads, rural electrification, rural housing, nutrition, rural domestic cooking energy, rural sanitation and public distribution system.

(c) the Seventh Five Year Plan had stipulated that poverty would be virtually eliminated, i.e., the percentage of people below the poverty line would be brought down to a level of 5 per cent by the year 2000. Such targets were not stated State/Union Territory-wise.

STATEMENT

Percentage of Rural Households below poverty line by States 1987-88

S. No.	States	No. of households below poverty line (in lakhs)
1.	2.	3.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.30
2.	Assam	7.86
3.	Bihar	51.90
4.	Gujarat	9.39
5.	Haryana	2.11
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.62
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.09
8.	Karnataka	18.53
9.	Kerala	5.93
10.	Madhya Pradesh	32.78
11.	Maharashtra	29.06
12.	Orissa	24.50
13.	Punjab	1.62
14.	Rajasthan	13.90
15.	Tamil Nadu	28.02
16.	Uttar Pradesh	61.80
17.	West Bengal	25.83
18.	Small States & UTs	1.66
	All India	**346.88**

NOTE : 1. The above estimates are derived by using the poverty line of Rs. 49.09 per capita per month at 1973-74 prices corresponding to daily calorie requirement of 2400 in rural areas.

2. For updating the poverty line for 1987-88 CSO private consumption deflator has been used.

3. These calculations are based on the draft report of 43rd round of National Sample Survey data on household consumer expenditure. (Report No. 372 "Report on the Fourth Quinquennial Survey on consumer expenditure", NSSO, June, 1990).

4. The numbers of households below poverty line relate to the population as on 1st March, 1988.

5. State-wise estimates have been made using the same methodology as was used at the time of formulation of Seventh Five Year Plan. Since then a number of issues have been raised about the methodology of poverty estimation and these issues are being considered by an expert group headed by Dr. D. T. Lakdawala.

6. The estimates presented here are likely to get revised in the light of the recommendations of the Expert Group.

Modernisation of T.F.C.

3021. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of steps taken to modernise the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited:

(b) whether the unit has the capacity to meet the requirements of various kinds of special boots and equipment for the armed forces and defence requirements;

(c) whether any proposal is being sent to the Planning Commission for the purpose of approving the modernisation of the unit; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) At the instance of the Government the IDBI have undertaken a viability study of TAFCO based on a revival scheme prepared by the Company. The report submitted by the IDBI in May, 1991 is under process.

(b) Corpn. is well equipped to meet the requirements of various kinds of special boots and shoes for defence